

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY S - THE SECRETARY

S/S - MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

S E C R E T STATE 194714

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S CALL ON FRG CHANCELLOR BRANDT

1. SECRETARY CALLED ON CHANCELLOR BRANDT IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 26. SECRETARY SAID HE HAD JUST HAD PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE HAD WELCOMED DEVELOPMENT TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY BUT HAD ALSO STRESSED NEED FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN US AND EUROPE. HE FELT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT WE AVOID ADVERSARY PROCEDURE AND WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY TO ACHIEVE OUR PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC TIES. BRANDT COMMENTED THAT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING THIS SUMMER WITH REGARD TO EC EFFORTS TO DEVELOP JOINT POSITION; IT HAD NEVER BEEN THOUGHT THAT EFFORT TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY WOULD PREVENT BILATERAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN US AND EUROPEANS. BRANDT ALSO NOTED THAT WORK OIN EC HAD HELPED TO BRING FRENCH ALONG. SECRETARY SAID HIS LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH JOBERT HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTIVE IN TONE AND THAT SOME OF ANTAGONISMS OF PAST SUMMER SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN REMOVED.

2. WHEN SECRETARY ASKED FOR BRANDT'S IDEAS ON HOW DIALOGUE SHOULD CONTINUE BETWEEN US AND EUROPE, BRANDT
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REPLIED HE WAS NOT TOO HAPPY WITH FORMULA TO EFFECT THAT PRESIDENT'S VISIT DEPENDED ON PROGRESS ON ANY PARTICULAR SUBJECT. HE FELT THAT IF DECISION COULD BE REACHED ON VISIT, THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT WE WOULD ACHIEVE

TWO GOOD DECLARATIONS, OR MAYBE EVEN THREE. EVEN QUESTIONS OF PROTOCOL REGARDING VISIT PROBABLY WOULD BE WORKED OUT. BRANDT SAID PRESIDENT WOULD BE MOST WELCOME IN FRG, IN OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND BY EC INSTITUTIONS. WHILE IT WOULD NOT BE END OF WORLD IF PRESIDENT DID NOT COME NEXT WEEK, IT MIGHT BE WELL IF FACT OF VISIT COULD BE ANNOUNCED IN MONTH OR SIX WEEKS.

3. BRANDT SAID EC MEETING WITH PRESIDENT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN BRUSSELS, AND HE SUGGESTED THAT POMPIDOU MIGHT WISH TO INVITE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND THEIR FOREIGN MINISTERS TO PARIS FOR NATO MEETING. AFTER ALL, SUCH MEETING WOULD NOT DISCUSS TECHNICAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO INTEGRATED DEFENSE, AND POMPIDOU IS VERY INTERESTED IN ALLIANCE AS SUCH. BRANDT SAID HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED THIS IDEA WITH JOBERT, BUT HE WOULD RAISE WITH PRESIDENT AND, IF LATTER THOUGHT WELL OF IT, THEN BRANDT WOULD MAKE PROPOSAL TO POMPIDOU, WHOM HE HOPED TO SEE IN NEAR FUTURE. SECRETARY FELT THIS CONCEPT HAD POSSIBILITIES, ESPECIALLY IF IT DID NOT COME FROM US SIDE.

4. SECRETARY, EMPHASIZING HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH ANYONE ELSE, ASKED BRANDT'S VIEWS ON POSSIBLE DATES FOR PRESIDENT'S VISIT. IN PRACTICAL TERMS, THIS COULD TAKE PLACE BETWEEN NOVEMBER 15-30 OR FEBRUARY 15-MARCH 10 NEXT YEAR. BRANDT SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO SAY; HE WOULD PREFER A VISIT THIS YEAR, BUT IT SHOULD BE FOR PRESIDENT TO DECIDE. HE FELT THERE WAS NOT TOO MUCH DIFFERENCE ONE WAY OR OTHER. WHEN SECRETARY NOTED THERE WOULD BE ONE DIFFERENCE, I.E., THAT BRANDT WOULD BE CHAIRMAN OF EC COUNCIL AS OF JANUARY 1 AND COULD RECEIVE PRESIDENT IN THIS CAPACITY, BRANDT SAID HIS PROPOSAL CONCERNING NATO MEETING IN PARIS WAS INTENDED AS COUNTERWEIGHT TO THIS FACT. GIVEN FRG CHAIRMANSHIP OF EC NEXT YEAR, IT WOULD BE BETTER IF FRENCH COULD FEEL THAT THEY WERE ALSO PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE.

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SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD BE IN EUROPE IN OCTOBER AND HE HOPED THAT SHORTLY AFTER HIS TRIP DECISION COULD BE MADE AND ANNOUNCED RE TIMING OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

5. BRANDT RAISED POSSIBILITY OF THIRD DECLARATION WHICH MIGHT INVOLVE JAPAN; HE WAS INTERESTED IN AND SYMPATHETIC TO IDEA THAT JAPAN MIGHT BE ASSOCIATED NOT ONLY WITH ECONOMIC MATTERS BUT ALSO WITH WHAT USED TO BE CALLED PROBLEMS OF FREE WORLD. SECRETARY SAID HE HAD NOT THOUGHT THIS QUESTION THROUGH, ALTHOUGH HE FELT IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE JAPAN JOIN IN DECLARATION OF TYPE WE WERE WORKING OUT WITH EC. WHILE IT MAKES SOME SENSE FOR US TO RECOGNIZE EUROPEAN IDENTITY, IT

WOULD NOT BE MEANINGFUL FOR JAPAN TO DO LIKEWISE. HE
COULD IMAGINE THAT US MIGHT SIGN SOMETHING WITH JAPAN,
THAT EC WOULD ALSO SIGN SOMETHING WITH JAPAN, AND THEN
TWO COULD BE COMBINED INTO CHAPEAU DOCUMENT. JAPANESE
ARE WORRIED ABOUT BEING EXCLUDED ALTOGETHER, AND
SECRETARY HAD TOLD OHIRA THAT WE WOULD FAVOR ASSOCIATION
OF SOME KIND WITH JAPANESE ALTHOUGH WE DID NOT YET HAVE
PRECISE IDEAS AS TO FORM. KISSINGER

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